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Letter dated 20 May 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

The President of the Republic, Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, has read the statement which you made on 14 May 2004, following the consideration by the Council of the report of the international commission of inquiry into the events of 25 and 26 March 2004, and welcomes the decision taken by the Council to establish an international commission of inquiry to investigate all allegations of human rights violations committed in any part of the national territory since 19 September 2002.

While having reservations regarding the form and substance of the report of the commission of inquiry into the events of 25 and 26 March, in the light of your above-mentioned statement, the President of the Republic takes note of the conclusions of the Council on the said report.

The President of the Republic, who has always made scrupulous respect for human rights a major concern of his Government, takes note of the position of the Security Council on the events of 25 and 26 March 2004 and wishes to reassure the Council of his determination not only to see the current judicial investigations through to their conclusion but also to ensure that any persons found responsible are brought before the appropriate courts.

The President of the Republic wishes to remind the Security Council that, following the regrettable events of 25 and 26 March, two national commissions of inquiry were established: a parliamentary commission, whose members included representatives of all political parties in the National Assembly, and a judicial commission, under the authority of the Minister of Justice, who is a member of an opposition party (le Rassemblement des Républicains).

The President of the Republic wishes to assure the Security Council that action will be taken to follow up the conclusions of the inquiries conducted at the Council's initiative.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Philippe **Djangone-Bi**
Ambassador

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